

REMARKS

The Examiner's Office Action of February 28, 2006 has been carefully reviewed. The present amendment is fully responsive to said Office Action and the arguments and claim amendments presented herein are made for the purposes of placing the application into a condition for allowance.

The Examiner objected to independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2 and 5 because of an informality in that independent claim 1 contained an incomplete phrase. Inasmuch as Applicant has amended claim 1 to complete the phrase, these claims should now be allowable.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2 and 5-12 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,653,940. In response, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c), Applicant has filed the attached terminal disclaimer to overcome this rejection.

Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 5- 12 as amended are now in a condition for allowance. Should any additional issues remain prior to the issuance of a Notice of Allowance the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned for the purposes of conducting an interview.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Amendment B was placed in an envelope and mailed via first class mail, postage paid, to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 this 28th day of August, 2006.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-1667.


Michael J. Colitz, III

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